Unit 6: Unified Command
Unit Objectives

- Define Unified Command.
- List the advantages of Unified Command.
- Identify the primary features of Unified Command.
- Differentiate between command and coordination.
Activity: Optimal Strategy

Instructions: Working individually . . .

1. Review the scenario presented in the Student Manual and select the optimal strategy that provides the best solution.
2. Be prepared to share your answer in 5 minutes.
Unified Command

The Unified Command organization consists of the Incident Commanders from the various jurisdictions or organizations operating together to form a single command structure.
Unified Command Benefits

- A shared understanding of priorities and restrictions.
- A single set of incident objectives.
- Collaborative strategies.
- Improved internal and external information flow.
- Less duplication of efforts.
- Better resource utilization.
Unified Command Features

- A single integrated incident organization
- Co-located (shared) facilities
- One set of incident objectives, single planning process, and Incident Action Plan
- Integrated General Staff – Only one Operations Section
- Coordinated process for resource ordering
Possible Organization

Unified Command

HazMat Incident Commander

Law Enforcement Incident Commander

Public Works Incident Commander

Unified Incident Objectives

Safety Officer

Public Information Officer

Liaison Officer

Operations Section Chief
Planning Section Chief
Logistics Section Chief
Finance/Administration Section Chief
What are potential barriers to implementing Unified Command?
Making Unified Command Work

- Include key community response personnel.
- Make sure that first responders know their legal and ethical responsibilities.
- Learn ICS.
- Train and exercise together.
Incident Coordination

Coordination activities include:

- Establishing policy.
- Collecting information.
- Establishing priorities.
- Resolving resource issues.
- Facilitating support.
- Synchronizing public messages.
Joint Information Center

The Joint Information Center (JIC):

- May be established to coordinate public information activities.
- Serves as the central point of contact for all news media.
Activity: Unified Command

Instructions: Working as a team . . .

1. Review the scenario and questions presented in the Student Manual.

2. Refer to the quick-reference guides in the Student Manual as needed.

3. Select a spokesperson and be prepared to present your work in 20 minutes.
Summary

Are you now able to:

- Define Unified Command?
- List the advantages of Unified Command?
- Identify the primary features of Unified Command?
- Differentiate between command and coordination?

Unit List

- Course Overview
- ICS Overview
- ICS Features & Principles
- Incident Commander & Command Staff Functions
- General Staff Functions
- Unified Command

Course Summary – Putting It All Together